

Award No: **G8KC 47**

Level: **SCQF Level 7**

Award Title: **Professional Development Award in Systems Administration at SCQF<sup>1</sup> Level 7**

## **Introduction to the Award**

This Professional Development Award (PDA) is one of a suite of three which were designed to incorporate the knowledge and understanding required by popular vendor\* awards into SQA's Higher National programmes.

The units, which make up this PDA in Systems Administration are contained in the HN Computing frameworks and can assist in preparation for vendor exams by using vendor courseware. This PDA covers the knowledge and understanding associated with the Microsoft Certified System Administrator (MCSA).

World wide, vendor qualifications are increasingly popular with both candidates and employers across the computing industry sectors and all organisations employing IT specialist staff.

Embedding these PDAs into the HN frameworks allows candidates to work flexibly towards a Higher National qualification through short courses or part time study.

## **Target Audience**

As this award covers the knowledge and understanding associated with the MCSA qualification it will be attractive to candidates who are looking for employment at an entry-level position such as a network support technician. It would also be suitable for those wishing to prepare for career advancement in their organisation.

Candidates might also want to use this PDA to progress to further study in Computing or Networking at Higher National level or to the PDA in Systems Engineering.

Successful completion of this PDA would help prepare candidates for the Microsoft Certified Systems Administrator (MCSA) examinations and would offer the opportunity to proceed to higher levels of Microsoft certification.

\* Vendor Awards are those Awards designed and certificated by a product manufacturer or trade alliance organisation.

---

<sup>1</sup> SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework) helps people to understand and compare different qualifications in Scotland. (visit the website [www.scqf.org.uk](http://www.scqf.org.uk) for more information)

## Content and Structure of the award

On successful completion of the Award, candidates will receive the Professional Development Award Certificate, in addition to the three separate units listed below, endorsed on their Scottish Qualifications Certificate (SQC).

All **three** units in the six-credit award are mandatory.

| UNIT TITLE  | CODE    | CREDIT VALUE | *SCQF LEVEL |
|---|---------|--------------|-------------|
| Client Operating System                                 | DF9M 34 | 2            | 7           |
| Network Server Operating System                         | DF9N 34 | 2            | 7           |
| Network Infrastructure 1: Implementation and Management | DF9R 35 | 2            | 7           |

\*The Scottish Credit & Qualifications Framework (SCQF) is a way of helping people understand and compare Scottish Qualifications, by giving them credit points which shows how much learning has been achieved and a level on a scale of 12, to show how demanding the learning is. Details can be found at [www.scqf.org.uk](http://www.scqf.org.uk).

At the end of the award candidates will be able to:

- Install a client operating system
- Implement and administer resources
- Implement, manage and troubleshoot hardware devices and drivers
- Monitor and optimize system performance and reliability
- Configure and troubleshoot the desktop environment
- Implement network protocols and services
- Implement, monitor and troubleshoot security
- Manage and maintain physical and logical devices
- Manage users, computers and groups
- Manage and maintain access to resources
- Manage and maintain a server environment
- Manage and implement disaster recovery
- Implement, manage and maintain IP addressing
- Implement, manage and maintain name resolution
- Implement, manage and maintain network security
- Implement, manage and maintain remote access
- Maintain a network infrastructure

## Centre Contact details